

wearing them. The FBI says that the risk of fatality to officers from a firearm while not wearing body armor is 14 times higher than for officers wearing body armor. One study indicates that between 1985 and 1994, no police officer who was wearing a bulletproof vest was killed by a gunshot that penetrated the officer's vest.

Mr. Speaker, if we are going to ask our law enforcement officials to risk their lives every day in the line of duty, it is incumbent upon us to give them every bit of protection possible. While no piece of equipment can save the life of every officer, having a bulletproof vest often means the difference between life and death. I would like to thank Mr. LOBIONDO, and my other colleagues who have already co-sponsored this important legislation, and I urge you and the rest of our colleagues to support it as well.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRED KRINSKY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Dr. Fred Krinsky, a rabbi, professor of political science and fanatic Dodger fan—Brooklyn and Los Angeles—who died last month at the age of 73. Despite being diagnosed with insulin-dependent diabetes at the age of 8, Dr. Krinsky lived a life of extraordinary energy and achievement. He never wavered in his desire to bring together people of diverse backgrounds and to foster the growth of Judaism in areas with small but devoted Jewish communities.

Born in Poland, Dr. Krinsky came with his family to the United States when he was 3. He grew up in Brooklyn, which explains his passion for the Dodgers. "Passion" is too weak a word: Dr. Krinsky spent much of his life in agony over the fact that Dodger catcher Mickey Owen dropped a crucial third strike in the 1941 World Series against the New York Yankees.

Dr. Krinsky received his master's and doctorate degrees in political science at the University of Pennsylvania. He was also ordained as a rabbi through a private Orthodox Yeshiva in Brooklyn. Dr. Krinsky taught at Syracuse University from 1947 to 1960 and the University of Southern California from 1960 to 1972. He moved to Los Angeles 2 years after the Dodgers, but he always insisted it was mere coincidence.

Dr. Krinsky was an ardent Zionist who led several trips to Israel. His class on Middle Eastern politics at Pomona College, where he was chair and chair emeritus in government from 1972 to 1997, was one of the most popular on campus. Former students would return to hear the magic of his words and the wisdom of his views. Dr. Krinsky firmly believed that only through dialog could Israelis and Arabs—and Jewish-Americans and Arab-Americans—resolve their differences over the Middle East.

Dr. Krinsky's legacy includes four reform congregations in southern California and a fifth in Scottsdale, AZ. In each case he was the founding rabbi.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Fred Krinsky, whose courage and humanity were an inspiration to us all. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT RICH GRAY

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with my colleague PETER VISCLOSKEY of Indiana in introducing the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1997. This bill will create a new U.S. Department of Justice grant program which will assist State and local law enforcement agencies in providing their officers with the protection of bullet-resistant vests.

Mr. Speaker, since the introduction of the material used in vests, the lives of more than 2,000 officers have been saved because they were wearing protective vests or other body armor. Nonetheless, I was dismayed—but not surprised—to learn that 25 percent of our Nation's police officers are on the streets without vests due to a lack of available funding. This underscores the need to provide those resources for our States and localities so that they may purchase critically needed vests. To me it's simple—when you get your badge and gun, you should get your vest too.

I owe my level of interest and involvement on this issue to my friend Sgt. Rich Gray of the Pleasantville Police Department. It was Sgt. Gray who first brought this issue to my attention several years ago soon after he founded *Vest-A-Cop Inc.* and was working intensely to get the program moving. *Vest-A-Cop* is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the objective of outfitting all full-time duly sworn law enforcement officers in Atlantic County, NJ. Not only is Sgt. Gray well on his way to being successful in reaching that goal after working diligently to secure funding from a variety of sources, but last year his tireless efforts resulted in Governor Whitman signing into law a bill which would create a funding source to buy protective vests for every police officer in the State.

Rich Gray is not only an exceptional police officer and dedicated president of the *Vest-A-Cop* organization, but is a model citizen in other ways as well. He regularly organizes the Millville Harley-Davidson & Pleasantville Police Department Toy Run—an effort dedicated to providing toys and canned goods to the needy in Atlantic County—as well as other worthy community projects.

For all his duty- and civic-minded devotion and commitment, I am taking this opportunity to publicly recognize thank Sgt. Rich Gray. He is a model citizen and personal friend and I am proud to work with him on this important issue.

HONORING REVEREND M. KEITH COOKSEY AND TRUE VINE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rev. M. Keith Cooksey on his installment as pastor of the True Vine Baptist Church of Houston. Reverend Cooksey will

add to True Vine's great tradition of impassioned sermons and providing spiritual nourishment and community service.

Born and raised in Houston, Reverend Cooksey attended Isaac Elementary, Fleming Junior High, and Kashmere High School in Houston before graduating from Texas Southern University in 1986. He is currently pursuing his masters in education from TSU.

Reverend Cooksey began his ministry in 1992. He delivered his first sermon at St. Matthew Baptist Church in Houston in 1993. He joins the True Vine Baptist Church after being ordained while serving as Minister of Christian Education for First Baptist Church Greens Bayou. He has attended Southwestern Extension Seminary and College of Biblical Studies, and plans to pursue his Master of Divinity in 1998 from Southwestern Theological Seminary of Houston.

Reverend Cooksey joins a wonderful family at True Vine Baptist Church, which is dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of our community. For years True Vine has drawn parishioners from across the State with its inspired sermons, and now is also recognized for its leadership to young people. The pastors and parishioners of True Vine Baptist know that it is not enough just to tell young people to feel better about themselves. To build a sense of self-worth and a commitment to service, opportunities, and activities must be available to our young people.

Pastors Jesse Johnson, Jr., and Harry Jackson know that simple instruction and guidance from the church can make a huge difference in young people's lives. Pastor Johnson likes to tell of a story about a young boy who wanted to become a doctor, but was not showing the discipline and drive needed to fulfill that dream. Johnson told the young boy that only by possessing focus and a sense of purpose can one succeed in life. Reverend Cooksey will now add to that legacy by designing and implementing programs to enhance the education and spiritual needs of the young people of our community.

The congregation of True Vine Baptist Church are building a better future for Houston by instilling a sense of purpose and duty to the community. Reverend Cooksey will only add to a church dedicated to building a congregation of good citizens, one member at a time.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Reverend Cooksey as he joins the True Vine Baptist Church family. I wish him continued success in providing vital leadership and spiritual guidance to all in our community.

TRIBUTE TO AN INDISPENSABLE VISION NOVEMBER 5, 1997

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on previous occasions I have applauded President Clinton's assertion that this is an indispensable Nation. It is important, however, that this belief go forward with great humility. The United States is not the only indispensable Nation, and we are not the only people whose leaders have an indispensable vision. Dr. Tadaihiro Sekimoto, the chairman of the board of NEC Corp., has